

ABSTRACT

Wireless communications relative to a vehicle using a wireless communications device, a pocket for holding the wireless communication device and a docking station in communication with the pocket are provided. The pocket can include a processor for translating communications between the wireless communications device and the docking station. A subsystem for detecting selected audible signals and muting other audible signals may be provided as part of the pocket. The docking station has processing capability and can communicate with different pockets and thereby different wireless communications devices. In at least one embodiment, the docking station manages voice recognition and text-to-speech commands to facilitate hands-free communications in the vehicle. The docking station can function as a communications hub involving a number of vehicle subsystems. In a preferred embodiment, the vehicle subsystems are separately addressable using the docking station and/or other processing hardware/software. However, in communicating over the Internet, a vehicle IP address is utilized.

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